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INFORM**CHEMEN**IADRT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Ecuador .

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 4 APR 1949

SUBJECT

DATE OF IN

Pedro Saad's Letter to Equadoran Vice President

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PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



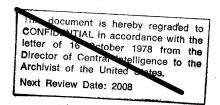


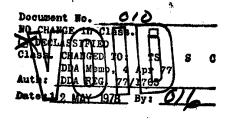
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- 1. On 9 March 1949 Pedro Saad, Acting Secretary General of the Partido Comunista del Ecuador (PCE Communist Party of Ecuador), sent a letter to Vice President Manuel Sotomayor y Luna, protesting President Galo Plaza Lasso's remarks that the Communists were partially to blame for the critical labor situation in Ecuador. Saad declared that, if Plaza wished to avoid an outbreak of vandalism in Ecuador, he had better continue his former policy of friendliness toward the Communists as the latter were in a better position to check the masses than any other group in the country.
- 2. The letter was delivered by a member of the Executive Committee of the PCE to the Vice President. There has been no reaction on Sotomayor's part as yet. It is known that he is very much concerned over the possibility of nationwide uprisings and that he has been courting Saad's friendship in order to avoid friction with the Communists.
- 3. In writing to the Executive Committee of the PCE in Quito asking one of its members to deliver the letter to the Vice President, Saad also made mention of the Committee's request of 7 March 1949 that he, the Acting Secretary General, abide by the statutes of the Party and live in Quito.* Saad did not commit himself in any way but replied that he would discuss the subject with the Committee upon his return to Quito in the middle of March.

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